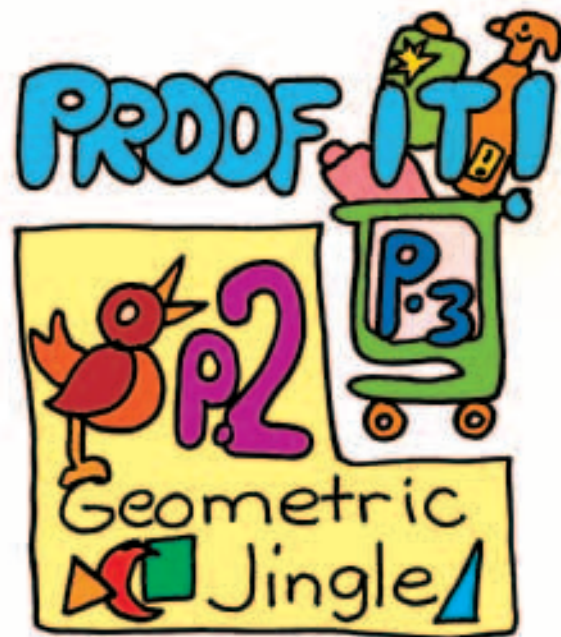


# Trash Talk!

hi kids!



**A quarterly newsletter of  
Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment  
Bureau of Waste Management  
Summer 2002**



**KANSAS  
DON'T SPOIL IT!**

## We've been spotted!

What's blue and white and seen all over? The *Kansas Don't Spoil It!* booth, of course!

The *Kansas Don't Spoil It!* booth has been seen recently in nearly every corner of the state. This year, it has shared its message at numerous water festivals, including those in Shawnee County, Butler County, and McPherson County. It has educated participants at several conferences, including the Kansas Environmental Education Conference in Great Bend and the

Recycling and Composting Works! Conference in Emporia. It has even been spotted a few times at the state capitol!

Unveiled in 1996, the *Kansas Don't Spoil It!* booth is a favorite at conferences and festivals where the Bureau of Waste Management is present. Its purpose is to share recent *Kansas Don't Spoil It!* materials, talk to various public groups, and share the message about the importance of keeping Kansas resources "unspoiled."

So, be on the lookout, because you never know where we'll turn up!



## Hazardous waste programs ensure safe disposal

You've read plenty of warnings about lawn and garden chemicals, household cleaners, and automotive fluids. But really, what's the big deal?

The big deal is that many of these products contain very powerful and potentially harmful chemicals. Some of these chemicals can make you sick if you breathe them. Others can burn the skin. A few can explode or catch fire.

Hazardous materials always require special handling. Whenever they are used, label instructions should be carefully followed. When they are disposed, special care must be taken because many of these products cannot be poured down the drain or dumped in the trash.

The Kansas Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program currently serves 78 of the 105 counties in the state, providing safe HHW disposal options to 90 percent of the state's residents. Most HHW programs accept oil-based paint, latex paint, motor oil and other automotive fluids, acids, cleaners, pesticides, and batteries. For collection dates, times, locations, and materials accepted, please contact the HHW program nearest you. If you don't know where the nearest HHW program is or would like more information on HHW, please contact Cathy Colglazier at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment at 1-800-287-9790.



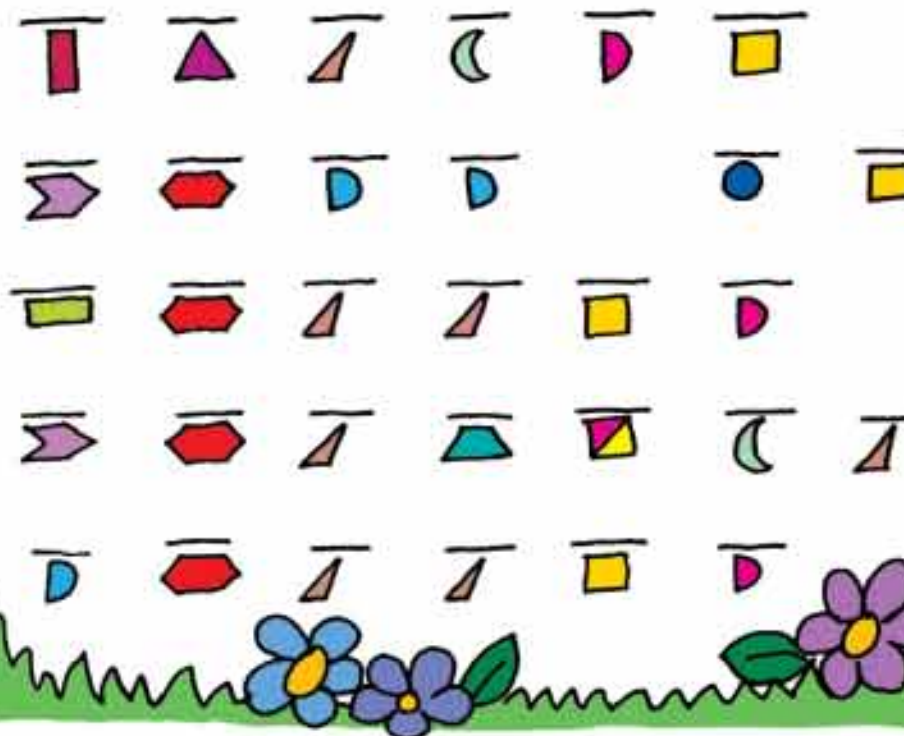
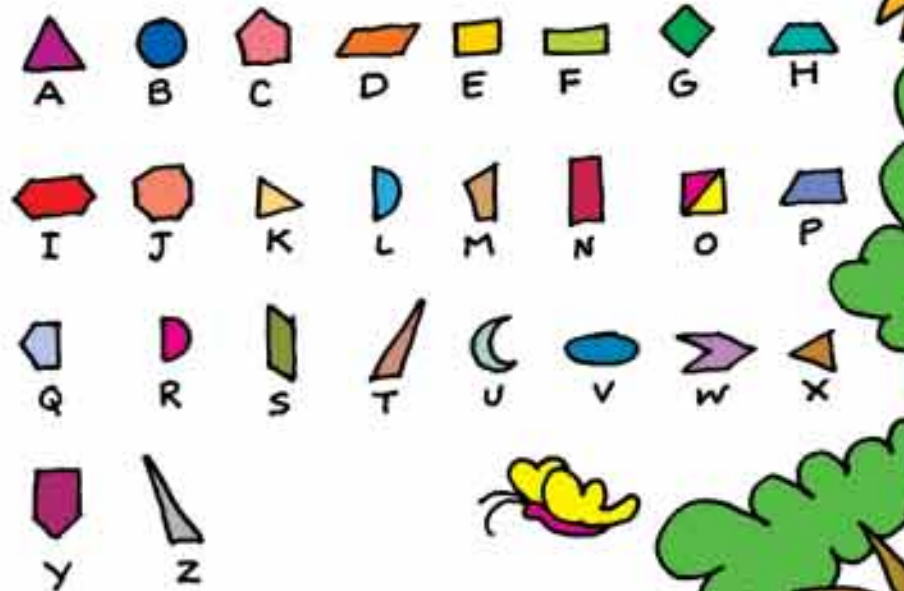
# MISSING MATH



Did you know that only 1 percent of what Americans put in landfills is aluminum cans? The more aluminum cans we recycle, the lower that number will be. Two years ago, 1,900,000,000 pounds of aluminum were recycled from used beverage cans. There are about 33 beverage cans in a pound, making the number of beverage cans recycled \_\_\_\_\_. When you recycle an aluminum beverage can, 60 days or \_\_\_\_\_ months later it will be a new can on a store shelf. We are currently recycling 62 percent, which is good. But we need to encourage everyone to recycle the remaining \_\_\_\_\_ percent. On average, there are 200 aluminum recycling centers in every state in the U.S., making the total number of centers nationwide about \_\_\_\_\_.

# Geometric Jingle

Instructions:  
Use the code to learn a little about litter.



# CAN U DIG IT?

In 1999, archaeologists excavated a landfill in the central region of our state. They made this chart to show what they found. Using the chart, answer the questions below.

## Excavation of the Centralia Landfill

Place excavated	Dates explored	Objects found	Detailed information
Northwest quadrant (disposal site 1908-1938)	March 8-17	Buggy seat Carpet beater World War I army helmet	 Helmet issued to Herbert Mendel
Southeast quadrant (disposal site 1987-present)	April 15-24	Compact discs Markers Bag full of individual lunch containers Set of headphones Toaster oven	 Empty lunch containers from Mr. Perez's third-grade class
Northeast quadrant (disposal site 1939-1956)	March 19-30	Huge ball of string Meat grinder Empty gas ration coupon book	 Gas ration coupon book found in Betty Anderson's pocketbook
Southwest quadrant (disposal site 1957-1987)	April 2-13	Record player Hula hoop Metal lunch box	 Metal lunch box with picture of "The Partridge Family"

- Which place was explored first? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who served in the army? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which quadrant of the landfill was filled first? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who drove a car? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which half of the landfill was excavated in April? \_\_\_\_\_
- What objects were landfilled between 1957 and 1987? \_\_\_\_\_
- In which place were the most objects found? \_\_\_\_\_
- What class used Centralia Landfill as a disposal site? \_\_\_\_\_
- What was found in the northeast quadrant? \_\_\_\_\_
- What quadrant is currently used? \_\_\_\_\_
- What do you think the purpose of the excavation was? \_\_\_\_\_

# PROOF IT!

- ≡ Capitalize
- / Make lowercase
- ✓ Make an apostrophe
- "" Add quotation marks
- ⏏ Indent a paragraph
- ↗ Add a comma
- ⊙ Add a period
- ✂ Cut out

Instructions: Proofread this story. Use the Proofreading Symbols in the box above to mark at least 12 errors. We've done the first one for you.

i was talking with my friends, Jamal and Mary Kate, about going to the store with with my mom.

Jamal said "When you shop, you should read product labels because they sometimes provide warnings."

"Thats right," said Mary Kate. "Labels on things like household cleaners or lawn Chemicals usually contain signal words that warn you of potential dangers."

I asked, "What are signal words?"

Mary Kate said, They are words like *danger*, *caution* or *hazard*. Whenever you see these signal words or others like them, you need to be be really careful with the product.

Jamal added, "If you dont usually read labels while you shop, now is a good time to start. If You see signal words, maybe you should think twice about buying that product."

I asked, "what would we buy instead?"

Mary Kate said "You could volunteer to read the labels for your mom and find the least hazardous product"

"Or," added jamal, "check your cupboards before you go to the store. Sometimes, I find that we already have an old product we need to use up."

"Great ideas," I said. "thanks, guys!"





## Clean Sweep coming to schools

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will be implementing a free, statewide Kansas Clean Sweep program for all senior high, junior high, and middle schools. This sweep will focus on cleaning out laboratory chemicals in the schools. Any obsolete or unwanted hazardous chemicals may be disposed at no charge to the school. The school district offices must register for the program and complete an inventory of the hazardous chemicals to be disposed. A disposal company hired by the state will visit the school to pack the wastes and take them away for proper disposal. Specific locations and dates have not yet been determined. If your school would like additional information on the Kansas Clean Sweep program, a principal, maintenance supervisor, or science teacher should contact the Clean Sweep Coordinator Cathy Colglazier at 1-800-282-9790.

## Swap shops

Many of the local household hazardous waste programs (see Page 1) have "swap" areas. At swap areas, usable products can be dropped off and picked up—usually at no charge. The items must be in their original, labeled containers, and the containers must be in good condition. Check at the hazardous waste disposal facility near you—your family might be able to pick up free cleaning, gardening, or automotive products!



**Now at a website near you!**

Enjoy *Trash Talk!* on the web. Visit [www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/waste) and follow the links to *Trash Talk!*.

## Lane's Recycling dedicated to recycling in southwestern Kansas

Lane's Recycling in Ulysses accepts cardboard, aluminum, "office pack" paper, computer paper, newspaper, some plastics, and magazines. They work with a number of communities and recycling programs in southwestern and south central Kansas, including Grant County and the City of Ulysses, and are well on their way to becoming an area hub for cooperatively marketing recyclables.



One of the first steps toward becoming a hub came when DeDe Lane, the owner of Lane's Recycling, was purchasing wire for her cardboard baler. The shipping costs for the baling wire were more than the wire itself. So, DeDe bought enough for herself and several of the neighboring recycling programs to

make the shipping costs more manageable. Other efforts include DeDe Lane's participation in organizing and sponsoring recycling roundtables in western Kansas.

Weak markets are not making things easy for Lane's Recycling, but the work they do is paying off. They are truly "Investing for the Future of Kansas"! Thank you and congratulations to Lane's Recycling for their dedicated service and outstanding achievements in waste diversion.

For her excellent work, DeDe received a Kansas Partnership award at the recent Recycling and Composting Works! Conference.

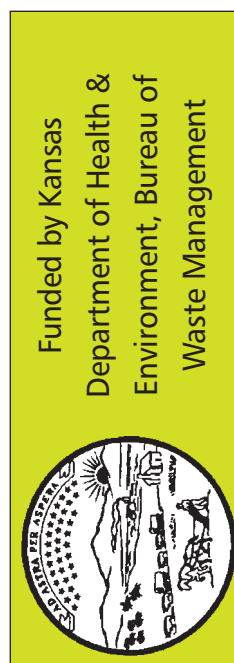


Keep Kansas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful affiliates in Dodge City, Kansas City, and Topeka/Shawnee County are taking part in this year's Great American Cleanup, which continues through May 31.

Students can easily take part in this year's efforts to clean up Kansas in several ways:

- Organize a cleanup of your schoolyard.
- Adopt a park and pick up litter or help park officials plant flowers or trees.
- Work with a local recycling center to plan a recycling activity at your school.
- Remove graffiti.

Need more ideas? Visit the Keep Kansas Beautiful website at [www.keepkansasbeautiful.com](http://www.keepkansasbeautiful.com) or call 785-273-6808.



**KDHE/Bureau of Waste Management/ Planning, Grants & Public Education Unit**  
1000 SW Jackson, Suite 320  
Topeka, KS 66612 • 785-296-1600  
E-mail: [jrudeen@kdhe.state.ks.us](mailto:jrudeen@kdhe.state.ks.us)  
Web: [www.kdhe.state.ks.us](http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us)